

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Erickson, U.S. Patent 6875129 ("Erickson"). Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 2 and also the limitation that the crown section and the hosel section of the minor body are a single component, as opposed to two different pieces, support for which is found at paragraph [0046].

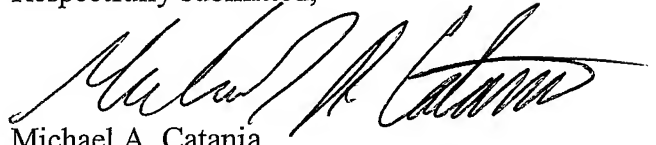
Claims 13-15 have been amended to be dependent on claim 10 in order to overcome the objection.

Original claim 2 and current claims 6-8 and 10-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Erickson and other art. Erickson was filed on June 4, 2003, published on December 9, 2004 and issued on April 5, 2004. Thus, Erickson is 102(e) prior art for purposes of a 103 rejection. However, Erickson is, and has always been, owned by Callaway Golf Company, the assignee of the Present Application. The assignment for Erickson is found at Reel/Frame 013703/0805, and a copy of the Patent Assignment Abstract of Title is attached to this Response. Under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(c)(1), Erickson cannot preclude patentability since at the time the claimed invention of the Present Application was made, both Erickson and the Present Application were owned by the same party, Callaway Golf Company. Thus, with the removal of Erickson, it is believed that current claims are patentable over the prior art.

Therefore the Applicants respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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